keep the delivery schedule. All such cases reported to Developmnt Commissioner for Cement Industry are taken up by them with concerned factories.

Construction of godowns in A.P.

924. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh have requested 50 per cent grant for the construcion of godowns in all the Mandal headquarters in the State to store rice, Palmolein oil and kerosene;

(b) whether Government have accepted the proposal; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) to (c) Requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

925. [*Transferred to the 29th November, 1988.*]

Slag cement plant at Rourkela

926. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a slag cement plant at Rourkela;

(b) whether Steel Authority of India has taken any step in that regard;

(c) if so, by when the proposed plant is likely to be commissioned and begin commercial production; and

(d) the estimated cost of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) Last year Government of India had received a proposal from Government of Orissa to set up a slag cement plant at Rourkela. However, the Steel Authority of India did not find the proposal to be viable.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Presence of pesticides in food beyond permissible limit

927. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several studies conducted by ICAR conclusively show presence of pesticides in food beyond permissible limits and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether such studies on food have been conducted on all the pesticides registered in the country and if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) whether any legal proceedings have been launched anywhere in the country since the promulgation of Insecticides Act or under PFA and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) In the field crops, residues for 23 insecticides have so far been studied and results have revealed that mostly the residue levels are below the tolerance limit. Moreover, waiting period, washing, cooking, dehydration, rubbing, etc. also help in reducing the residue levels considerably. In some cases however residues do exceed the prescribed tolerance levels mainly due to th indiscriminate use as well as wrong time and method of application.

(b) No, Sir. Not all the pesticides registered in the country have been studied for their residues in food crops and more studies are being contemplated in All India Coordinated Project on Pesticides Residue.

(c) No legal proceedings have so far been launched regarding presence of pesticids in food under the Insecticide Act, 1968. So far as PFA Act 1954 is concerned, the maximum residual tolerance limits or 31 pesticides have been prescribed in commonly used articles of food under the prevention of Food Adulteration Rules 1955. As per information made available by States/Union Territories during the year